Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

the least interesting specimens are those collected by Dr. James Eights in the southern part of South America and on the islands of the South Pacific Ocean.

§ 140. **Publications.**—1. *Botanical Contributions*, by Asa Gray, to Proc. Am. Acad. Vol. XII. Dec. 27, 1876. We have here another paper by Dr. Gray, rich in descriptions of new species, and revisions of old points. The first article is on the *Characters of Canbya*, nov. gen. Papaveracearum, *and Arctomecon*, with two plates, beautifully drawn by Sprague, fit companions for those in the *Genera.* We felicitate Mr. Canby on the fair, and fairly earned, honor, and hope to see his namesake flourishing in cultivation. "From the *Sagina*-like tuft of foliage at the surface of the ground rises a multitude of tiny peduncles or scapes, each tipped with a bright white flower which lasts for many days; the petals (barely two lines long) opening at sunrise and at sunset closing over the ovary, and at length permanently over the capsule, into a globular form, which the discoverer [Dr. Parry] likens to a pearl. The most unexpected anomaly of a persistent (instead of a caducous) corolla is shared by *Arctomecon*, native of the same district, as Dr. Parry himself ascertained upon rediscovering that exceedingly rare plant in the spring of the preceding year." Arctomecon was partly reconstructed for the Botany of California, but, as some new points have since been noticed, a full character is here given. Dr. Gray affirms that the anthers in *Pyroleæ* are in normal position in the bud, *i. e.*, that they are extrose and the pores basal. Other observers have thought differently, and he himself at one time. This is an interesting point for those fond of botanical dissection. Compare Torrey's Flora of State of N. Y., Vol. I., p. 451. It seems that Rafinesque's genus *Steironema*, distinguished from Lysimachia by the presence of staminodia between the fertile filaments, and by the æstivation of the corolla (in which each division is separately involute around, or even convolutely enwraps, the stamen before it), must be re-established, and we must label, instead of *L. ciliata*, *L. radicans*, &c. Steironema ciliatum, S. radicans, S. lanceolatum, and S. longifolium. The next important article is a re-arrangement of Asclepias and the allied genera, in which discussion Dr. Gray has had the aid of important notes by Dr. Engelmann. A curious find is that by the keen-eyed Mr. Green of *Pectocarya*, (Gruvelia) *pusilla*, a Chilian species, east of the Coast Range, therefore far from the coast, abounding in company with the natives of the region. Another Pectocarya (Gruvelia, DC.), P. setosa, *nov. spec.*, has been found by Dr. Palmer in S. E. California. We presume that Dr. Gray's Contributions may be procured from the Naturalist's Agency, Salem, Mass.—2. *Report of the Botanist* (Charles H. Peck) *made to the Regents of the University of the State of New York*, for 1874, published, in advance of the Report on the Museum, in 1876. Mr. Peck has discovered the insects which are laying waste the spruce forests of the Adirondack region, viz., Hylurgus rufipennis, Kirby, the chief agent, and, in one instance, Apate rufipennis, Kirby, a much smaller beetle. It is to be regretted that these reports are not published more punctually, in order that the valuable information contained in them may the sooner be taken into account. Fortunately, in one view, the smaller trees are less liable to attack, so the forests may survive for the generations that will take care of them. Of course the plants new to the state are chiefly Fungi, of which there is a goodly array, this being Mr. Peck's specialty. Of others not previously mentioned in the BULLETIN, we notice *Pyrus sambucifolia*, Cham. and Schl , Adirondack Mts., Mr. Peck; *Aster amethystinus*, Nutt., Green Island, Albany Co., Mr. Wibbe; *Habenaria leucophœa*, Nutt., Wayne Co., E. L. Hankensen. Of new localities we have: *Brasenia peltata*, Pursh, in the Adirondack region, V. Colvin; *Solea concolor*, Ging., New Lebanon, Beck Herbarium; *Nardosmia palmata*, Hook, Ithaca, Prof. Prentiss, Machias, Wyoming Co., Clinton. *Arceuthobium minutum*, Englm. (A. pusillum, Pk.). Mr. Peck reports this mischievous little stranger from Oswego and Saratoga Counties, making five counties in the State in which it has been found. In all these localities it inhabits Spruces in low grounds or marshes. There used to be some Abies nigra in Secaucus Swamp, if one had leisure, winter would be a good season to investigate it, *Abies balsamea*, Marshall, occurs in Stony Clove, of the Catskills, in a prostrate or ascending bush-like form, Peck; *Oryzopsis Canadensis*, Torrey, Sandy soil near Center, Peck; *Milium effusum*, L., Stony Clove, Peck; *Panicum agrostoides*, Spreng., Northville, Fulton Co., Peck; *Azolla Caroliniana*, Willd., Black Creek near Oneida Lake, Warne. There are two well executed plates illustrating the Fungi.—3. *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, 1876, January–September. That active observer, Mr. Thomas Meehan, seems to be the chief representative of Botany in the Academy. His many observations are always of interest, and his objections to the need of cross fertilization in the case of many plants must needs contribute to the discovery of the truth. Wm. Wood & Co., 61 Walker St., N. Y., and The Naturalist's Agency, Salem, Mass., are agents for the sale of the publications of the Academy.—4. *American Agriculturist*, January and February. Dr. Gray continues his instructive notes on, "How Flowers are Fertilized." From Mr. Darwin's new work, "The Effects of Cross- and Self-Fertilization in the Vegetable Kingdom," he gathers illustrations of the wonderful activity of bees, and their sagacious economy of time. It is well known that humble-bees often bite holes in the flower to get at the honey more expeditiously, that is if the flower is to continue to yield it, but, he asks, "Does any one know of an instance of the perforation of any fugacious flower, any which lasts only one day?" The Agriculturist always contains some excellent illustrations of plants, besides other matters of interest, and is sometimes a good deal ahead in its botanical news, say from two to nine years.—5. *American Journal of Science and Arts*, January. The first volume of Elliott's Botany bears the date of 1821, the second of 1824, but Dr. Gray shows that the actual publication of the several parts was earlier, beginning in 1816. *Homogone* or *Homogonous*, and *Heterogone* or *Heterogonous* are terms proposed by Dr. Gray, to cover the difference in the relative length of styles and stamens in heteromorphic plants. From a notice of a paper by Mr. Thomas Comber, Hist. Soc. Lanc. and Chesh. Eng., it would appear that in Europe plants with specialized adaptation for fertilization, or dispersion, or endurance, are less widely distributed than the less specialized or lower.—6. *Botanical Gazette*, January: well filled. Mr. Garber gives a racy account of his herborizations in Florida, and Mr. Burgess, of some Iowa plants. Dr. Rothrock, considering that *Diplopappus* must be partitioned out among other neighboring genera, proposes for *D. ericoides*, T. & G., the name of *Aster ericæfolius*, to distinguish it from *D. ericoides*, Less. *Aplopappus ericoides*, DC.—7. *Field and Forest*, January, adds the Mosses to the Flora Columbiana.

§ 141. **International Exchange.**—In October, 1876, at the request of Charles Robinson, Esq., Secretary of the New South Wales Commission of the Centennial Exposition, Rev. Samuel Lockwood, of Freehold, N. J., shipped to the Botanic Garden, at Sydney, N. S. W., a collection of American aquatic plants. The suite embraced *Nelumbium luteum*, *Nymphaea odorata*, *Nuphar advena*, *Sarracenia purpurea*, *Pontederia cordata*, *Vaccinium macrocarpon.* Excepting *N. luteum*, the plants were all collected by the Doctor around his home. The Nelumbo was obtained at Woodstown, Salem Co., N. J. The plants consisted of roots and seeds, all of which, even the seeds, were packed in very wet sphagnum, in a strong, tight cask, closely sealed up, and expressed by way of San Francisco. Full notes of the habits of the plants were sent.

§ 142. **Franklin Society of Providence, R. I.**—It may interest the Members of the Torrey Club, to know that a Botanical Section of the Providence Franklin Society has been instituted, which meets every alternate Thursday evening. The attendance has so far been quite good, and we perceive encouraging symptoms of increasing membership. In addition to the exhibition of specimens, and the friendly interchange of views, a topic is chosen for discussion, and to this special attention is given. In this way, *Rudimentary Organs*, *Fertilization*, etc., have been considered. It is purposed, too, that a systematic work of collection of Rhode Island plants be entered upon, exchanges established, etc. A feature in our meetings, so far, has been the attendance of a number of ladies, and we can safely affirm an increasing interest in our beloved science in this community. For our little Society we bespeak the kind attention of similar organizations everywhere, and we will be glad to receive any suggestions, and to welcome any visitors. The Officers are: Chairman: W. W. Bailey; Secretary: L. W. Russell. W. W. B.

§ 143. **Habenaria ciliaris**, R. Br.—This occurs here with flowers varying in color from bright yellow to nearly white, and it is noticeable that the deeper the yellow color the more strongly are the lateral sepals reflexed. J. B. E.

Newfield, N. J.

Terms—*One Dollar per annum beginning with the January number. For the Botanical Directory* 30 *cents. Supplement to Directory*, 10 *cents. Vols. I.-V., with index, and photograph of Dr. Torrey*, $3.75. *Copies of Constitution and By-Laws of the Club*, 25 *cents Address*, Wm. H. Leggett, 224, *E. Tenth Street, New York. Money Orders on Station D, P. O., N. Y. All subscriptions or orders filled only on receipt of the money.*

The Club meets regularly the last Tuesday of the month in the Herbarium, Columbia College, at 7:30 *P. M. Botanists are invited to attend.* Dr. Thurber, *the President of the Club, may be found at* 245 *Broadway.*